

COLORADO ARABIAN HORSE CLUB
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
August 12, 2009

Meeting called to order by Jim Gromelski at 7:12PM at Renaissance Hotel in Denver.

Board Members present (8 for quorum):

Jim Gromelski
Lauren Payne
Helen Alfaro
Cheryl McMahan
Liz Wheeler
Ron Harden
Jim Hitt
Pat Thompson
Jerry Martinez
Trisha Swift
Norm Brown

Board Members absent:

Melissa Miller
Michael Troxler
Mary Wunsch
Kelly Bell
Kathy Scott

Guests:

Nicole McMahan
Mary Jo Hoepner
Jennifer Deasaro
Chuck Mangan

Jim Gromelski introduced Jennifer Deasaro, who has volunteered to coordinate the Arabian breed representation at the Rocky Mountain Horse Expo.

MINUTES – MOTION by Ron Harden to approve the June 2009 CAHC Board of Directors meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Jerry Martinez. Motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Ron Harden: Distributed financials via email pre-meeting. All books reconciled. Income statement shows \$1700 loss for the year, mainly because Estes Park income is not yet reflected. Discussed questions about upcoming delegate contributions and amount allocated per horse show for year-end awards.

MOTION by Pat Thompson to approve the August 2009 financial statements as presented. Motion seconded by Jim Hitt. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION by Ron Harden to allocate \$400 to each delegate (\$2800 total) now, in time for delegates to pay expenses for early registration on September 15th and to start funding travel arrangements. Motion seconded by Lauren Payne. Motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE: Jim Gromelski received letter from AHA about Club Excellence Award and Service Awards. CAHC has not participated in this award program for a few years. Discussed the pros and cons of submitting a nomination, and the potential need for a committee to track events, photos, etc. throughout the year and make formal nominations every August. Deadline is too close to feasibly make a nomination for 2009.

OLD BUSINESS: Inventory on assets is still not complete. Still need Stock Show coordinator.

NEW BUSINESS: General membership meeting will be at Fall Show on Saturday, September 5th between the afternoon and evening sessions. Election ballots not received by mail must be submitted at this meeting. Jim Gromelski will ask Ellin Smith to send out several email reminders to members ahead of time.

Southern Division elections will be held in September. Officers and directors rotate on 3-year terms. Northern division elections are held in December. Officers and directors renew annually.

Discussed raising club dues from \$20 to \$25/year. Some felt it would not be wise under the current economic situation. May be better to try and trim costs (newsletter has already saved a substantial amount). Discussed ideas about what the club can offer to members who do not show.

NORTHERN DIVISION REPORT – Norm Brown: Marie Welch scholarship was awarded to Debbie Gardner of Colorado Springs, a non-traditional student in the Army who went to Afghanistan. Fun Show planned for Sunday October 4th at Double D Ranch. Trisha is still active with Larimer County Horse Business Facility Regulations Committee. Still working on By-Laws.

SOUTHERN DIVISION – Liz Wheeler: Met on July 25th at Kit Carson Riding Club. Lots of interest and input, good turnout. Nominations committee was appointed, will elect officers on September 12th which is also the rescheduled date for the Tack Sale, at Kit Carson Riding Club. Open to anyone. Pot Luck dinner in the evening. October 11th “Ride the Test” at By The Weghe Farms, Dressage and Sport Horse event. Basic dressage work, open to anyone, even if you’ve never ridden Dressage. Christmas party December 6th, pot luck, at Kit Carson.

YOUTH DIVISION – Nicole McMahon: Kelly Bell wants to have elections by mail-in ballot. Next meeting will be at Fall Show. Plan to discuss fund-raising ideas for Christmas Show. All high point award jackets have now been distributed and were very well received.

REGION 8 – Jim Hitt: Sport Horse will show slight profit, for the third year in a row. Shared some current aspects of AHA finances that were discussed at the August board meeting. It was voted to repay Sweepstakes \$750K over the next 37 months. Payouts, etc should not suffer within the program’s current solvency. A resolution was passed that 1st and 2nd place standings will now qualify for Regionals and for points.

SHOW COMMITTEE REPORTS

Jim Gromelski announced that Cynthia Richardson has agreed to chair a Brainstorming Show Committee, which will be a fact- and feedback-gathering discussion group that can evaluate trends in class A show attendance within our own club as well as other local clubs. The intent is to identify opportunities for attracting members to exhibit and participate in our shows, and to identify cost-conservative strategies for managing shows. Cynthia recommends including on this committee all show managers, a show secretary, a judge, a senior amateur exhibitor, a trainer, a breeding representative, and Ron Harden as financial advisor.

SPRING SHOW – Liz Wheeler: Sent out email asking whether members would like to have Spring Show be a qualifier for Region 6 and Region 8. The responses were about 3 to 1 in favor of a double Region 8 qualifier, so that is the tentative plan. Contracts should be out by first week in December. No judges yet.

ESTES PARK – Pat Thompson: Distributed show financials, discussed questions. Entry fees were up significantly due to a one-time fee of \$135 for unlimited class entries.

FALL SHOW – Pat Thompson: On target. Meeting with National Western next week. Working Cow will be TBA classes this year due to potential low or no entries. Budget was submitted to Treasurer.

Should approve budget via email by all board members.

CHRISTMAS SHOW – Lauren Payne: Class schedule complete. Sport Horse classes will be on Sunday. Cindy Reich and Deborah Landy to judge. A \$2000 deposit is required by September 15th. Lauren will discuss with National Western the \$500 deposit we made in 2008 to

hold our 2009 dates. Discussed the cost advantages of ordering ribbons in bulk for the entire year as opposed to show-specific ribbons. National Western wants us to sign letter of commitment letter for 2010 show dates.

ACTIVITIES – Lauren Payne: Paula Koch has cancelled the CAHC trail ride for September and will instead participate in the Bijou Hunt trail ride on September 12th at Lazy K 11 Ranch near Kiowa.

AUDIT COMMITTEE: Finished until 2010.

AWARDS – Cheryl McMahon: nothing to report.

BY-LAWS – Jim Gromelski: Special session board meeting is scheduled for Sunday November 8th at 11AM at Pat Thompson's house, to discuss proposed amendments to By-Laws.

COLORADO HORSE COUNCIL – Norm Brown: Brian Kitchen has resigned as Executive Director of CHC, Horse Development Authority Board, and the four Rocky Mountain Horse Expos. CHC will meet next week. Upcoming Horse Expos are: Ignacio – September 18-20; Denver – March 12-14, 2010.

COMMUNICATIONS/NEWSLETTER – Ellin Smith: Deadline for next newsletter is August 15th. Working toward transitioning to paperless distribution. Ellin will announce the new electronic delivery method option in the next two newsletters. This will minimize our mailing costs, but Cheryl McMahon commented that if we fall below bulk mailing limits we may have to pay First Class postage, which could slightly offset the savings.

DELEGATES – Cynthia Richardson: no report

DRESSAGE – Mary Jo Hoepner: RMDS Championships end of September. CSDA meeting next week to discuss Dressage for the Cure.

ENDURANCE – Liz Wheeler: Kenlyn Urban Challenge scheduled for September 26th, also incorporated the Colorado Breeders Cup Endurance ride, at Kenlyn Arabians.

FINANCE COMMITTEE – no report

FUN TRAIL RIDES – Paula Koch: See Activities report above.

HALTER JACKPOT – Kathy Scott: no report

HUNTER JUMPER – Chuck Mangan: Jump trailer is now at Chuck's barn. The new jumps are great. Tarp may need to be replaced. Discussed purchasing a trailer, or soliciting the donation of a used 16' trailer (tax-deductible) to the club for use with the jumps and trail equipment.

INSURANCE – Lauren Payne: Insurance costs have been reduced by providing all event dates at one time rather than piecemeal throughout year. Expenses equal \$1695.38 less a refund of \$491.30.

MEMBERSHIP – Pat Thompson: 260 adult (down 2 from last report), 49 3-yr, 6 life, 42 youth 315 total. Currently working on a membership directory to be offered electronically. Hard-copy will also be available for a \$5 fee.

NOMINATING – Ann Wegener (by email): Ann Wegener emailed this report -- Mail-in ballots have begun arriving (five the first day). Ann will verify membership status with Pat Thompson. Ellin Smith will help in counting of the ballots. Ann is encouraged by the response so far.

STOCK SHOW BOOTH – Jim Gromelski: Still need a volunteer to coordinate the booth. Stoch Show dates are January 9th through 24th.

WEBSITE – Ron Harden: Nothing new to report.

WORKING HORSE – Jim Hitt: Trail equipment will be reworked next year.

YOUTH JUDGING TEAM: Judging teams have excelled at the national level. Ron Harden will ask Jodi if the youth judging team needs funding.

MOTION by Cheryl McMahon adjourn meeting. Motion seconded by Jim Hitt. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 9:47PM.

Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday September 16, 2009 at 7PM at Renaissance Hotel, 3801 Quebec Street in Denver (Stapleton area).

Respectfully submitted,
Helen Alfaro